Pesticides in soft drinks etc.

2041. SHRI K. KALAVENKATA RAO:
SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH:
SHRI ABANI ROY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have issued a draft notification to revise standards to regulate the presence of metals and pesticides in soft drinks, mineral water and beverages;

(b) if so, the details of soft drinks, mineral water and beverages included in the proposed draft notification;

(c) whether Government have invited any suggestions from public before it is considered and notified under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) to (d) A draft notification proposing to lay down the limits for pesticide residues and metals in carbonated water, fruits and vegetable juices, fruit syrup, fruit squash, fruit beverages or fruit drink, soft drink concentrate and ready to serve beverages has been published *vide* GSR 685(E) dated 26-8-2003 for inviting objections/ suggestions from the public. The date for inviting objections/suggestions has been extended upto 31st December, 2003.

A Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) has been set up to suggest criteria for evolving suitable safety standards for these products. Further action on the draft notification will be initiated after the receipt of the report of the JPC.

Anti-cancer Drug

2042. SHRI NANDI YELLAIAH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Committee headed by DG, ICMR was examining the issue relating to permission accorded to